

1345.4 - SA Stats, Oct 2009

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 27/10/2009

Summary

Contents

CONTENTS



Feature Articles

Who's not in the Labour Force?



Demography

Includes: **Estimated resident population, Components of population change**
South Australia's population increased by 18,600 during the year ended 31 March 2009.



Labour Force

Includes: **Contents, Employed persons, Unemployment, Participation rate**
Trend unemployment rate for South Australia lower than the national rate.



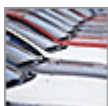
Incomes

Includes: **Average weekly earnings**
In the year ended May 2009 average weekly full time earnings in South Australia grew by 6.9% compared to 5.9% nationally.



State Accounts

Includes: **State accounts, Household final consumption expenditure (HFCE)**
In trend terms, South Australia has strongest growth in State Final Demand in the June quarter 2009.



Consumption

Includes: **Retail trade, New motor vehicle sales**
South Australian spending on Clothes, footwear and personal accessories increased 13.8% in the year to August 2009.



Investment

Includes: **Private new capital expenditure, Mineral and petroleum exploration expenditure**
Exploration expenditure on Uranium accounts for more than half of all mineral exploration expenditure in South Australia in the June quarter 2009.



Construction

Includes: **Building approvals, Construction work done**
The trend estimate for the value of engineering work done rose 11.8% in the June quarter 2009.



Price Indexes

Includes: **Contents, Consumer price index, Wage price index, House price index**
Adelaide's house price index rises for the first time since March 2008.



Housing Finance

Includes: **Housing finance commitments**
Average home loan size in South Australia significantly lower than the national average.



International Merchandise Trade

Includes: **Exports and Imports**
The value of South Australia's merchandise exports rose 7.6% to \$682m in August 2009.



Water

Includes: **Rainfall, Reservoir levels**
Water storage in Adelaide's reservoirs rises to 90% of capacity by the end of September 2009.

In this issue

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE

November 2009
December 2009
January 2010
February 2010
March 2010

Release Date

24 November 2009
22 December 2009
27 January 2010
23 February 2010
30 March 2010

WHAT'S NEW THIS MONTH

Topics which have been updated with new data in this month's issue of **SA Stats** include: Construction; Consumption; Housing Finance; International Merchandise Trade; Labour Force; and Water.

This month's **SA Stats** includes an article focused on people not in the Labour Force. Using data from a variety of sources, the article looks at the recent trend and changing composition of people not in the labour force in South Australia and examines the various factors that may influence a person's ability and willingness to enter the workforce.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or James Inglis on Adelaide (08) 8237 7405, or email sa.statistics@abs.gov.au.

Feature Articles



FEATURE ARTICLES

Oct 2009	Who's Not in the Labour Force?
Sep 2009	One parent families with dependent children in South Australia
Aug 2009	Heating and Cooling
Jul 2009	What are South Australians Studying?
Jun 2009	Water Efficiency in South Australia's Vineyards
May 2009	Journey to Work in the City of Adelaide
Apr 2009	Housing Finance - First Home Buyers and Other Borrowers
Feb 2009	Recent Increases in South Australia's Fertility

Jan 2009	South Australian Household Final Consumption Expenditure
2008	
Dec 2008	Energy Consumption in South Australia
Nov 2008	Adelaide's Population Turnover
Oct 2008	Contributors to Adelaide's Price Rises
Sep 2008	<u>Adelaide's Suburbs of Advantage and Disadvantage</u>
Aug 2008	South Australia's Agriculture Industry
July 2008	<u>New Dwelling Approvals in South Australia</u>
May 2008	<u>Literacy of South Australians</u>
April 2008	<u>South Australia's Migrant Population</u>
	<u>South Australia's Ageing Population and the Labour Force</u>
Feb 2008	<u>South Australia's Mining Industry</u>
	<u>Water Supply in South Australia</u>
Jan 2008	<u>Labour Force Underutilisation and the Underemployed in South Australia</u>
	<u>Water Use in Agriculture - A South Australian Perspective</u>
2007	
Nov 2007	<u>Sports Attendance in South Australia</u>
	<u>Recorded Crime - Victims, South Australia, 2006</u>
Oct 2007	<u>Attendance at Cultural Venues and Events by South Australians</u>
Aug 2007	<u>Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities - South Australia, 2006</u>
Jul 2007	<u>South Australia's big picture: Census highlights the changes in South Australian society</u>
	<u>Participation in Sports and Physical Recreation Activities - South Australia</u>
May 2007	<u>Health of South Australians - Body Mass</u>
	<u>Household Use of the Internet in South Australia</u>
Apr 2007	<u>Employment in the Retail Trade Industry in South Australia</u>
	<u>River Murray - South Australia</u>
Mar 2007	<u>Household Waste Management in South Australia</u>
Feb 2007	<u>Births - South Australia</u>
Jan 2007	<u>Gross Domestic Product and Gross State Product</u>
2006	
Dec 2006	<u>Rainfall in South Australia, South Australian Reservoirs, Water Consumption</u>
Nov 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health related actions</u>
Oct 2006	<u>National Regional Profile - New Release, New Features</u>
Sep 2006	<u>Fuel Production and Consumption, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Land Use Change and Forestry</u>
Aug 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health Risk Behaviours</u>
	<u>The South Australian Grape Industry</u>
Jul 2006	<u>Use of IT By Australian Businesses</u>
	<u>Household use of the Internet in South Australia</u>
May 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health Status</u>
Apr 2006	<u>International Trade in Services</u>
	<u>International Students in South Australia</u>
Feb 2006	<u>Labour Force and Other Characteristics of Migrants in South Australia</u>
Jan 2006	<u>Survey of work in selected Culture & Leisure Activities</u>
2005	
Nov 2005	<u>Household Income in South Australia</u>
	<u>Household Expenditure in South Australia</u>
Oct 2005	<u>SA Business and Innovation</u>
	<u>Recent History of Population change in South Australia, 1993-94 to 2003-04</u>
Aug 2005	<u>Average Weekly Earnings</u>
	<u>Transition from School</u>

Demography



DEMOGRAPHY

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

The estimated resident population (ERP) for South Australia was 1,618,200 at 31 March 2009, an increase of about 18,600 persons (1.2%) since 31 March 2008. Nationally, the ERP was 21,779,100 at 31 March 2009, an increase of about 439,100 persons (2.1%) since 31 March 2008.

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, Preliminary data

	Population at end March quarter 2009 '000	Change over previous year '000	Change over previous year %
New South Wales	7 076.5	112.5	1.6
Victoria	5 402.6	111.9	2.1
Queensland	4 380.4	112.7	2.6
South Australia	1 618.2	18.6	1.2
Western Australia	2 224.3	67.6	3.1
Tasmania	501.8	5.0	1.0
Northern Territory	223.1	4.8	2.2
Australian Capital Territory	349.9	6.0	1.8
Australia(a)	21 779.1	439.1	2.1

(a) Includes Other Territories comprising Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.
Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0).

In 2007-08, the South Australian Statistical Division (SD) with the largest percentage increase in ERP was Outer Adelaide (2.0%) followed by Adelaide (1.1%).

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION^(a), By Statistical Division, South Australia

	2007		2008	
	Population at 30 June '000	Change over previous year %	Population at 30 June '000	Change over previous year %
Adelaide	1 159.1	1.2	1 172.1	1.1
Outer Adelaide	131.4	2.1	134.1	2.0
Yorke and Lower North	45.9	1.0	46.4	1.0
Murray Lands	69.8	0.5	70.1	0.4
South East	64.9	0.6	65.4	0.8
Eyre	35.0	0.5	35.2	0.5
Northern	79.6	0.7	80.1	0.6
South Australia	1 585.8	1.1	1 603.4	1.1

(a) Estimates for 2007 are revised to align with new 2007 state and territory totals and estimates for 2008 are preliminary.

Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia 2007-08 (cat. no. 3218.0).

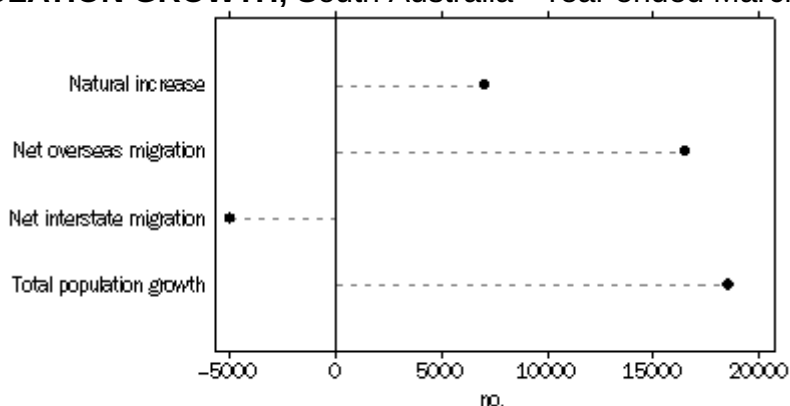
Map of South Australia's Statistical Divisions(PDF 2.44MB)

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

For the year ended 31 March 2009, South Australia recorded a natural increase (i.e. the net of births and deaths) of 7,048 persons. Net overseas migration provided a gain of 16,536 persons in the same period while net interstate migration realised a loss of 4,988 persons.

For the year ended 31 March 2009, Australia recorded a natural increase in population of 160,822 persons; net overseas migration resulted in a gain of 278,239 people.

POPULATION GROWTH, South Australia - Year ended March 2009



Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0)

Labour Force



LABOUR FORCE

CONTENTS

[Employed persons](#)

[Unemployment](#)

[Participation rate](#)

EMPLOYED PERSONS

In trend terms, the total number of persons employed in South Australia in September 2009

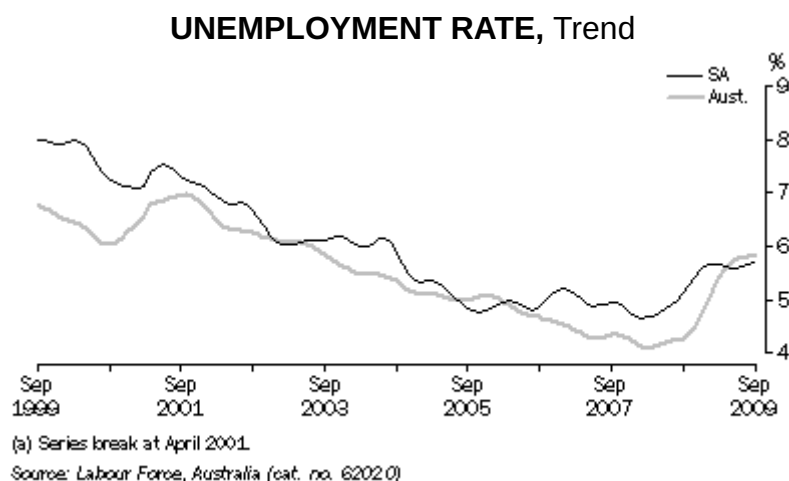
remained steady at 792,100. The total number of persons employed in Australia in September 2009 was 10,786,000, an increase of 4,700 on the number employed in August 2009 (10,781,300).



The number of males employed full-time in South Australia in September 2009 was 342,200 (in trend terms), a marginal decrease of 0.3% from the previous month (343,300). Looking at the composition of all male employees, those working full time accounted for 80.7% of the male workforce, down from 84.5% in September 2008. The number of females employed full-time in South Australia also fell between August and September 2009, from 183,600 to 182,800. Full-time female employees accounted for 49.6% of the female workforce in September 2009, down from 50.6% in September of the previous year.

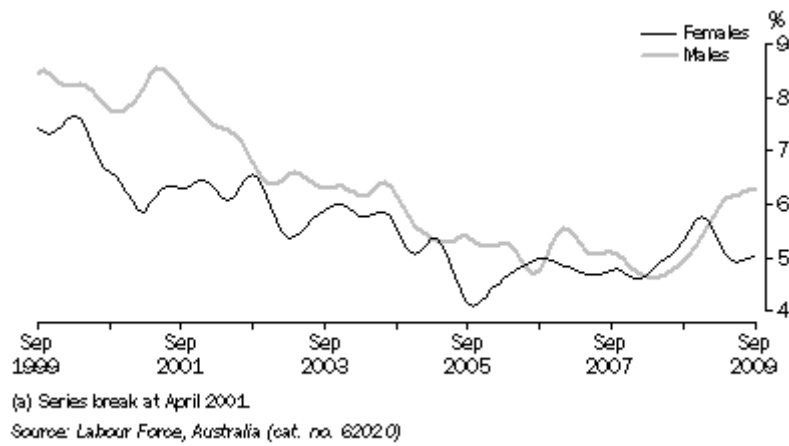
UNEMPLOYMENT

The trend estimate unemployment rates for South Australia and Australia in September 2009 were 5.7% and 5.8% respectively. Although the gap is closing, South Australia's trend unemployment rate continues to be lower than the national rate.



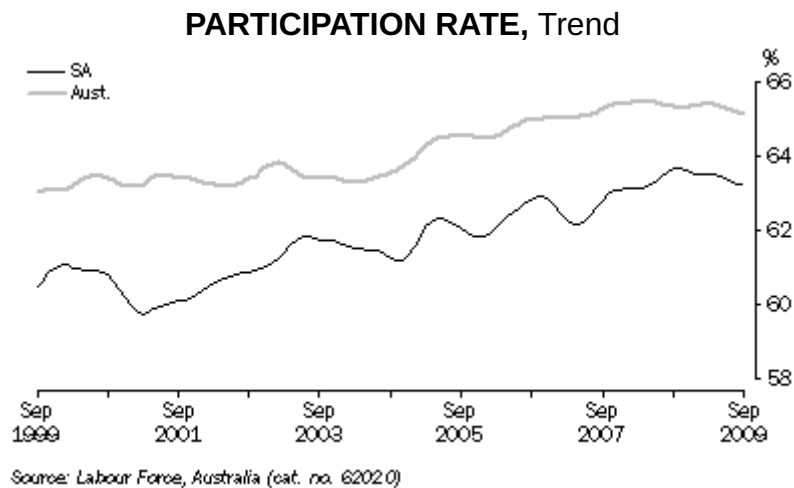
In September 2009 the trend unemployment rates for males and females in South Australia were 6.3% and 5.0% respectively. Over the last four months female unemployment has been growing at a slightly faster rate than male unemployment.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, Trend, South Australia



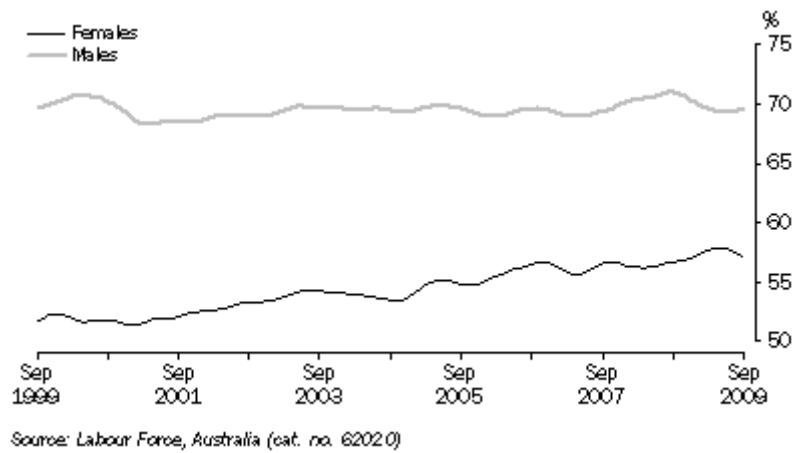
PARTICIPATION RATE

The trend estimate of the participation rate for South Australia held steady at 63.3% between August and September 2009. Australia's trend participation rate fell slightly to 65.1% over the same period.



For South Australia, after having been relatively stable for the previous three months, the trend participation rate for males rose to 69.6% in September 2009. This upward movement is the first observed since October 2008. The Australian participation rate for males remained at 72.1% for the third consecutive month. The participation rate for South Australian females continued to decline falling to 57.2% in September 2009. The Australian female participation rate held steady at 58.4%.

PARTICIPATION RATE, Trend, South Australia



Incomes



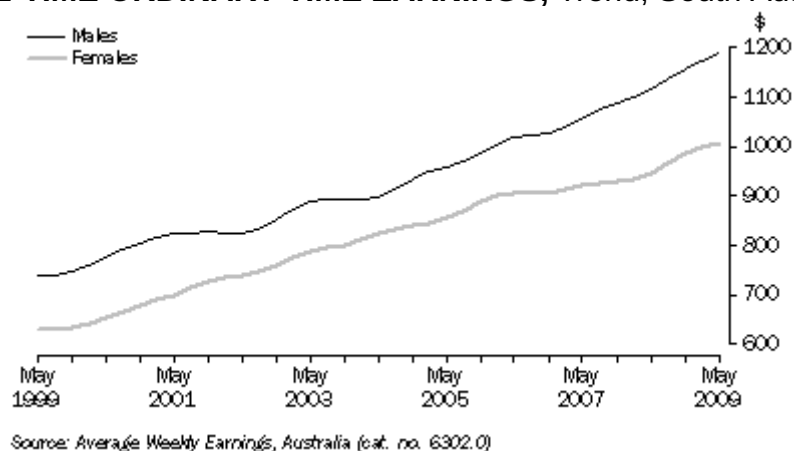
INCOMES

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

The trend estimate of average weekly (ordinary time) earnings for full-time adult persons in South Australia increased by 6.9% to \$1,127.10 in the 12 months to May 2009. Nationally, the corresponding increase was lower at 5.9% (up to \$1,197.50).

In the 12 months to May 2009, average weekly full-time earnings in South Australia for males increased by 6.8% to \$1,190.40. Nationally, male average weekly full-time earnings increased 6.5% to \$1,282.00. Female average weekly full-time earnings in South Australia increased by 6.6% to \$1,007.60 in the 12 months to May 2009, compared with a national increase of 5.2% to \$1,058.40.

FULL-TIME ORDINARY TIME EARNINGS, Trend, South Australia



For information on the wage price index, please refer to the '[Price Indexes](#)' topic.

State Accounts



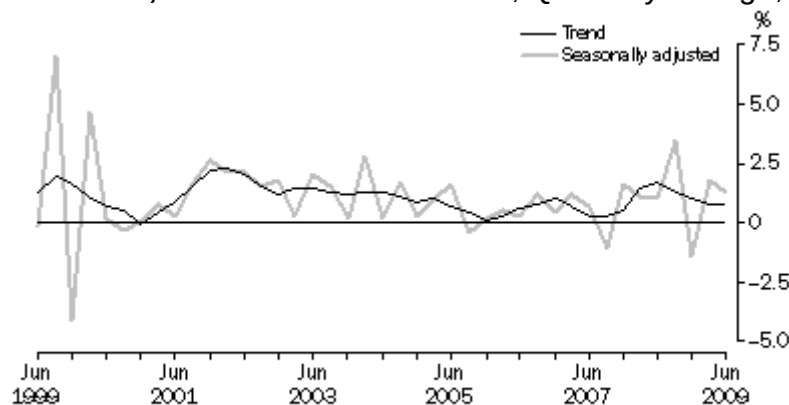
STATE ACCOUNTS

STATE ACCOUNTS

South Australia's June quarter 2009 State Final Demand in chain volume (trend) terms was \$19,436m; an increase of 0.8% from the March quarter 2009 and the strongest quarterly growth of all the states and territories. Australia's Domestic Final Demand fell 0.2% to \$284,685m over this period.

Victoria was the only other state to report growth in State Final Demand in chain volume (trend) terms during the June quarter 2009 (up 0.6%). Of the other states and territories, the largest decreases for the quarter were reported in the Northern Territory (down 3.4%) and Queensland (down 1.2%).

STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures, Quarterly change, South Australia

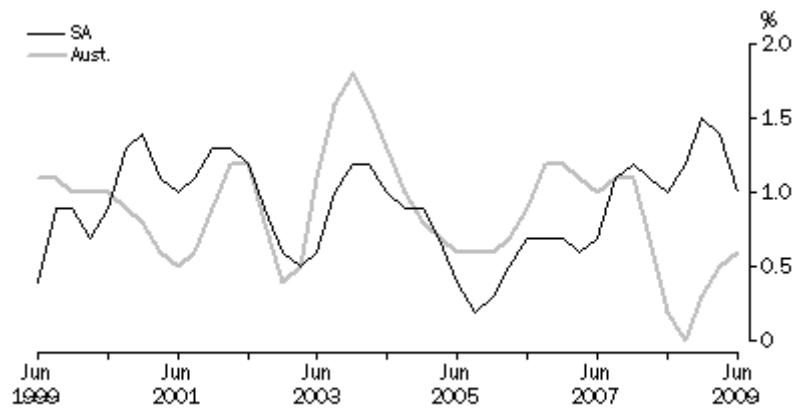


Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)

HOUSEHOLD FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE (HFCE)

In chain volume (trend) terms, South Australia's June quarter 2009 HFCE was \$11,518m (7.4% of the national total of \$155,390m). The value of HFCE for South Australia increased by 1.0% between the March and June quarters 2009. At the national level, HFCE increased by 0.6% over the same period. Growth in the value of HFCE has been consistently stronger in South Australia since the December quarter 2007.

HFCE, Chain volume measures, Trend, Quarterly change

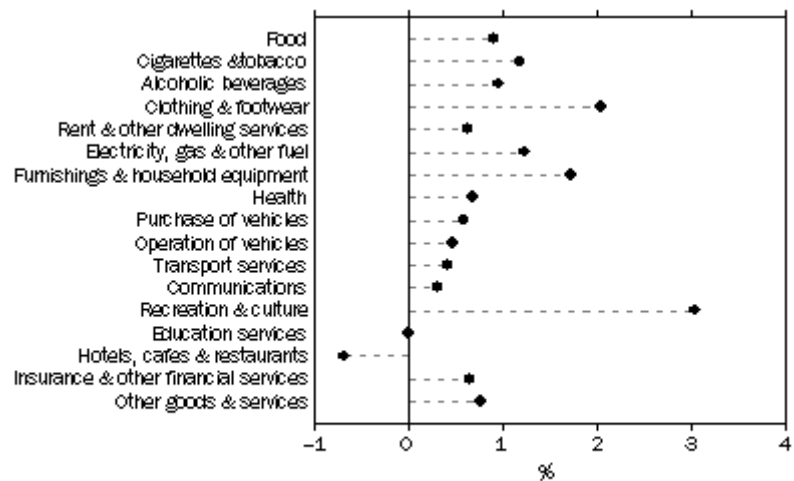


Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)

The main contributors to growth in HFCE in South Australia for the June quarter 2009 were Recreation and culture (up 3.0% from the March quarter 2009), Clothing and footwear (up 2.0%), and Furnishings and household equipment (up 1.7%). Expenditure on Hotels, cafes and restaurants was the only category to record a decrease over the same period (down 0.7%).

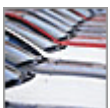
At the national level, expenditure increases were reported for almost all categories with the largest movements recorded in Clothing and footwear (up 1.4% from the March quarter 2009), Insurance and other financial services (up 0.9%), Food (up 0.8%), and Recreation and culture (up 0.8%). Expenditure on cigarettes and tobacco showed no change over this period.

HFCE, Chain volume measures, Trend, Quarterly change, South Australia - June Quarter 2009



Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)

Consumption



CONSUMPTION

RETAIL TRADE

Note: New Classification

From the July 2009 issue of **Retail Trade, Australia** (cat. no. 8501.0), the series presented in the publication will be compiled and presented according to a revised industry classification, the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) 2006 (cat. no. 1292.0). Previous issues of the publication were based on **Australian New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) 1993** (cat. no. 1292.0)

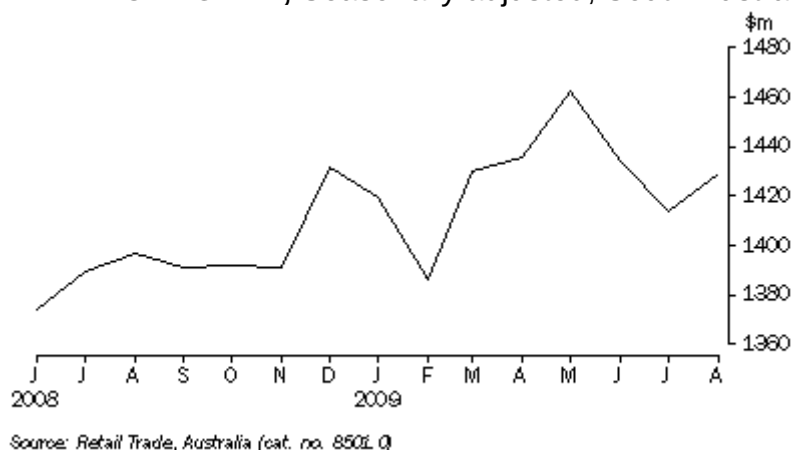
The article Changes in Monthly Retail Trade Statistics in the July issue of the publication provides information on the scope of Retail trade statistics under ANZSIC 2006 and the impact on time series and seasonal adjustment.

Further information can also be found in the Information Paper: ANZSIC 2006 Implementation in Retail Trade Statistics, July 2009 (cat. no. 8501.0.55.006).

The August 2009 seasonally adjusted estimate for South Australia's retail turnover was \$1,429.1m, while the estimate for Australia was \$19,810.3m. South Australia's contribution to total retail turnover in Australia was 7.2%.

From July 2009, the increase in retail turnover for South Australia across all retail industries was 1.1%, while turnover for Australia rose by 0.9%.

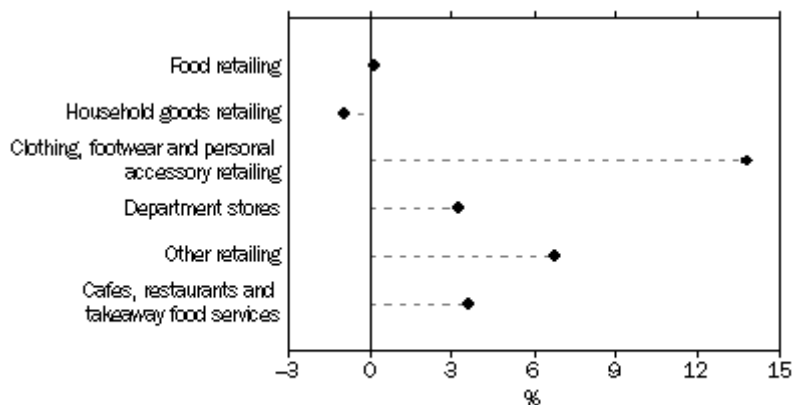
RETAIL TURNOVER, Seasonally adjusted, South Australia



Comparing August 2009 with August 2008, the South Australian industry groups with the largest percentage increases in retail turnover (in seasonally adjusted terms) were Clothing, footwear and personal accessory retailing, which rose by 13.8% to \$92.8m, and Other retailing, which rose by 6.8% to \$214.8m.

Over the same period, Household goods retailing was the only industry group to record a decline in South Australia falling 1.0%.

RETAIL TURNOVER, Seasonally adjusted, change from August 2008 to August 2009, South Australia

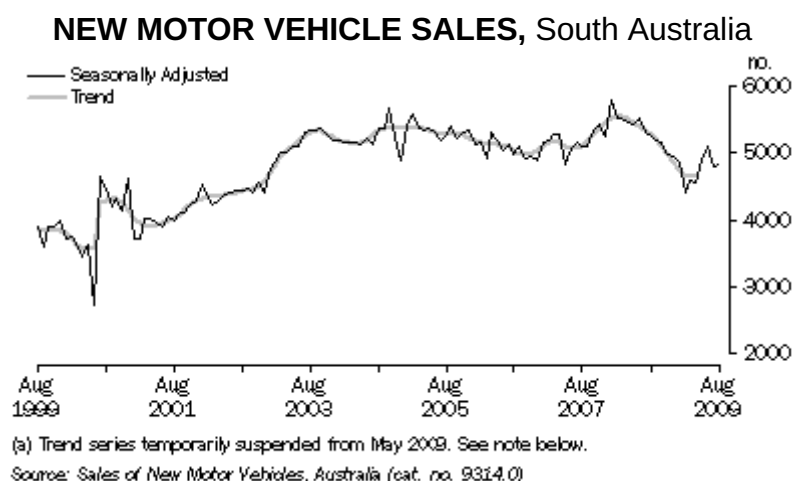


Source: Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0)

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

In August 2009, 2,966 new passenger vehicles and 4,835 new vehicles in total (in seasonally adjusted terms) were sold in South Australia.

In Australia, 45,543 new passenger vehicles and 75,388 new vehicles in total (in seasonally adjusted terms) were sold in August 2009.



Note: Suspension of Trend Estimates

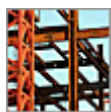
Following the Federal Government Budget in May 2009, the eligibility period for the Small Business and General Business Tax Break was extended to December 2009. The rebate level was also increased for small businesses, allowing eligible businesses to claim an increased tax deduction on the purchase of new motor vehicles.

The trend series attempts to measure the underlying behaviour in new motor vehicle sales. In the short term, this measurement may be significantly affected by unusual influences in the original and seasonally adjusted data, like those observed in May and June 2009. If the trend estimates in the publication were to be calculated without fully accounting for this irregular event, they would be likely to provide a misleading view of the underlying trend in new motor vehicle sales activity.

The new motor vehicle sales trend series has therefore been suspended from May 2009. The trend series will be reintroduced when more certainty emerges in the underlying

behaviour of new car sales.

Investment



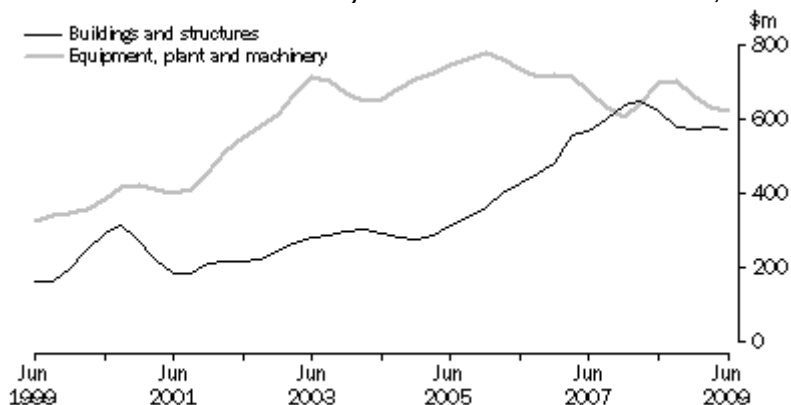
INVESTMENT

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Between the March and June quarters of 2009, the South Australian chain volume (trend) estimate of private new capital expenditure fell by 1.7% to \$1,196m. Expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery fell \$13m (2.1%) to \$621m, while expenditure on Buildings and structures fell \$7m (1.2%) to \$576m.

Over the same period, private new capital expenditure for Australia decreased by 0.6% to \$23,925m. Expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery fell by 2.9%, while Buildings and structures expenditure increased slightly (0.9%).

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, Chain volume measures, Trend, South Australia



Source: Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia (cat. no. 5625.0)

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE

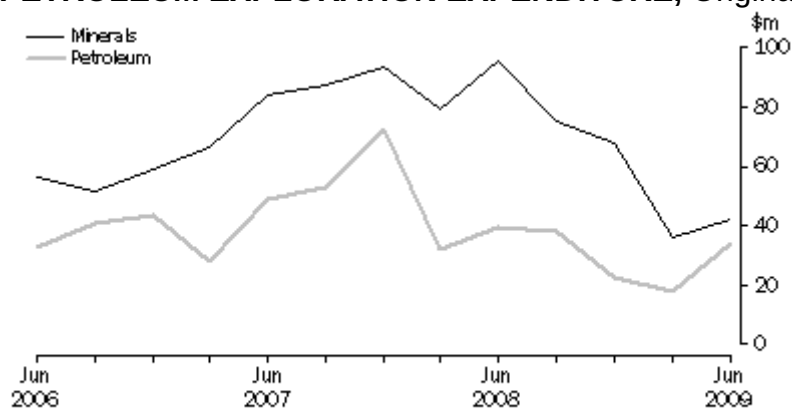
The value of South Australian mineral exploration expenditure (in original terms) was \$41.8m in the June quarter 2009; an increase of 16.0% over the previous quarter but still 56.1% below the peak recorded in the June quarter 2008 (\$95.2m). Australian expenditure on mineral exploration was \$483.5m in the June quarter 2009; an increase of 19.8% from the March quarter estimate (\$403.5m).

Exploration expenditure on Uranium (\$21.7m) accounted for more than half (51.9%) of all South Australian mineral exploration expenditure in the June quarter 2009. A further \$9.6m and \$5.1m were spent on exploration for Gold and Copper, respectively.

Expenditure on petroleum exploration in South Australia almost doubled between the March and June quarters 2009, rising from \$17.9m to \$34.2m over this period. Nationally, expenditure on petroleum exploration rose slightly (1.9%) from \$998.6m to \$1017.4m over

the same period.

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE, Original, South Australia



Source: Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia (cat. no. 8412.0)

Construction



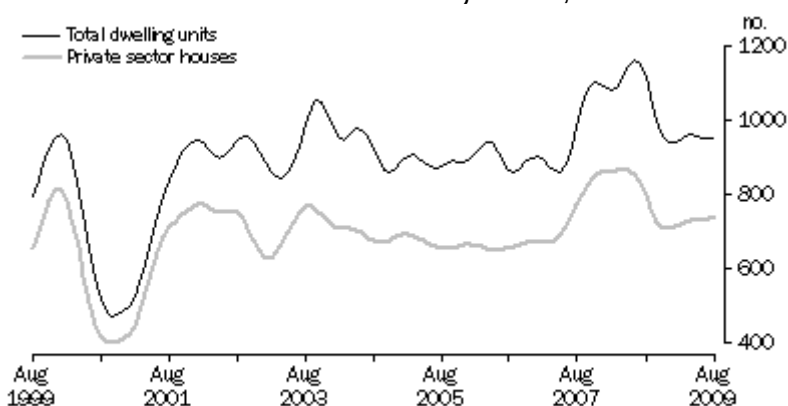
CONSTRUCTION

BUILDING APPROVALS

In August 2009, the total number of dwelling units approved in South Australia (in trend terms) remained steady at 952. Nationally, the total number of dwelling units approved (in trend terms) rose 1.6% to 11,833, the seventh consecutive rise recorded in 2009.

The trend estimate for the number of private sector houses approved in South Australia in August 2009 rose slightly to 742.

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, Trend, South Australia



Source: Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0)

In the year ended August 2009, the South East Statistical Division was the only Statistical Division in the state to record an increase in dwelling units approved (up 45.5%). The Eyre Statistical Division recorded the greatest percentage decrease in dwelling units approved

over the same period (down 31.4%), following a 46.4% increase during the year ended August 2008.

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, by Statistical Division, Original, South Australia

	Year ended August 2008		Year ended August 2009	
	Dwelling units no.	Change over previous year %	Dwelling units no.	Change over previous year %
Adelaide	9 613	34.8	8 100	-15.7
Outer Adelaide	1 718	9.7	1 538	-10.5
Yorke and Lower North	633	30.8	501	-20.9
Murray Lands	513	-24.8	409	-20.3
South East	376	4.7	547	45.5
Eyre	341	46.4	234	-31.4
Northern	523	31.4	386	-26.2
South Australia	13 717	26.4	11 715	-14.6

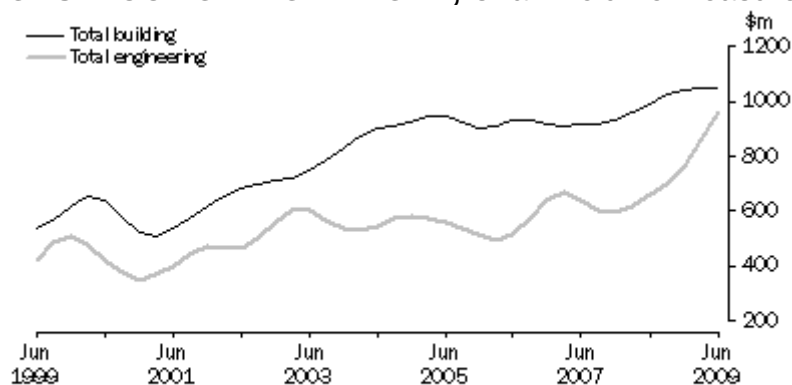
Source: Building Approvals, Australia - data available on request

[Map of South Australia's Statistical Divisions](#) (PDF 2.44MB)

CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE

In the June quarter 2009, the total value of building work done (in trend terms) in South Australia rose slightly to \$1,050.7m, an increase of 0.4% from the March quarter 2009. The trend estimate for the value of engineering work done in the June quarter 2009 was \$964.8m, an increase of 11.8% from the March quarter (\$862.7m). This is the sixth consecutive increase in this series with the June quarter estimate 61.8% higher than the value recorded in the December quarter 2007.

VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE, Chain volume measures - SA: Trend



Source: Building Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8752.0), Engineering Construction Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8762.0)

Price Indexes



PRICE INDEXES

CONTENTS

[Consumer price index](#)

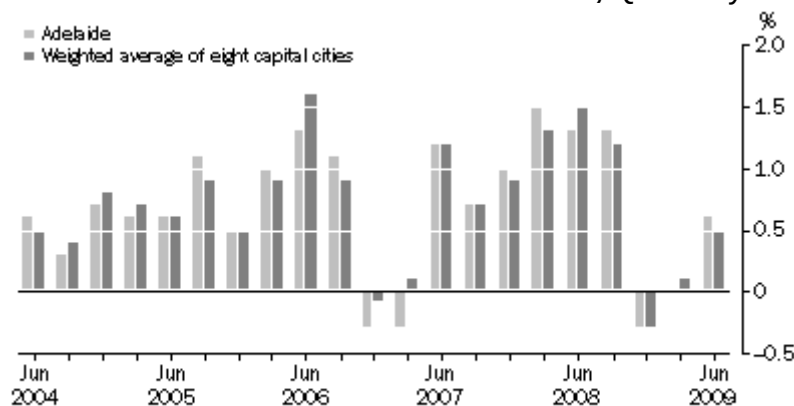
[Wage price index](#)

[House price index](#)

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The all groups consumer price index (CPI) for Adelaide rose 0.6% during the June quarter 2009, while the weighted average of the eight capital cities increased by 0.5% during that quarter. Adelaide's CPI increased by 1.6% in the year ending June quarter 2009, compared with a 1.5% rise in the weighted average of the eight capital cities.

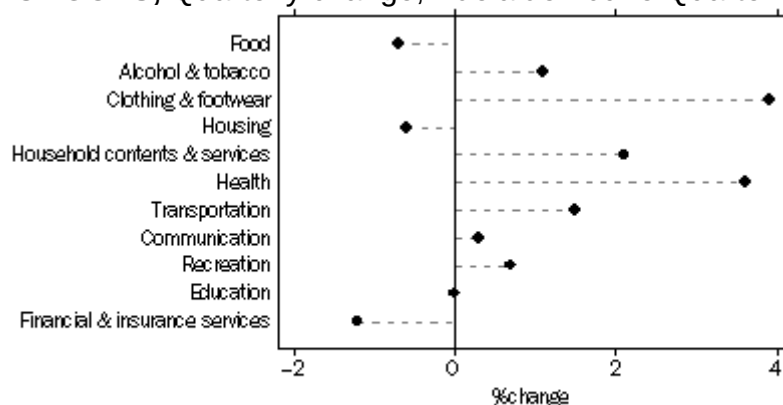
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - ALL GROUPS, Quarterly change



Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0)

Adelaide's largest percentage increases in prices from the previous quarter were in the areas of Clothing and footwear (3.9%), Health (3.6%) and Household contents and services (2.1%). The largest decreases in prices from the previous quarter were for Financial and insurance services (-1.2%) and Food (-0.7%).

CPI GROUPS, Quarterly change, Adelaide - June Quarter 2009

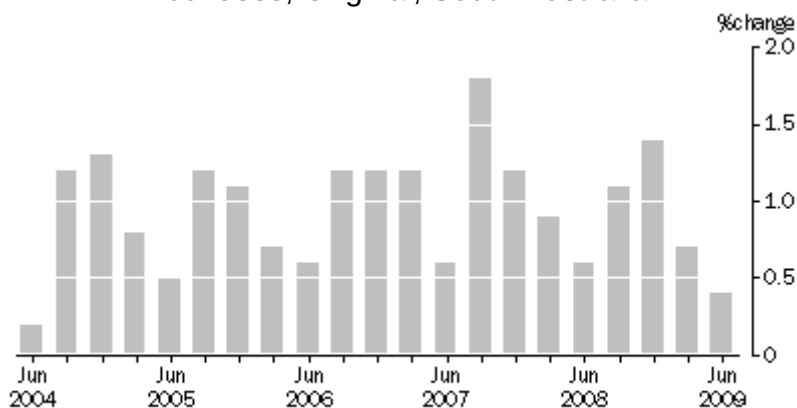


Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0)

WAGE PRICE INDEX

The wage price index for all employee jobs in South Australia increased by 0.4% (in original terms) between the March and June quarters 2009. This was less than the national increase of 0.6% over the same period.

WAGE PRICE INDEX QUARTERLY CHANGES, Total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses, Original, South Australia



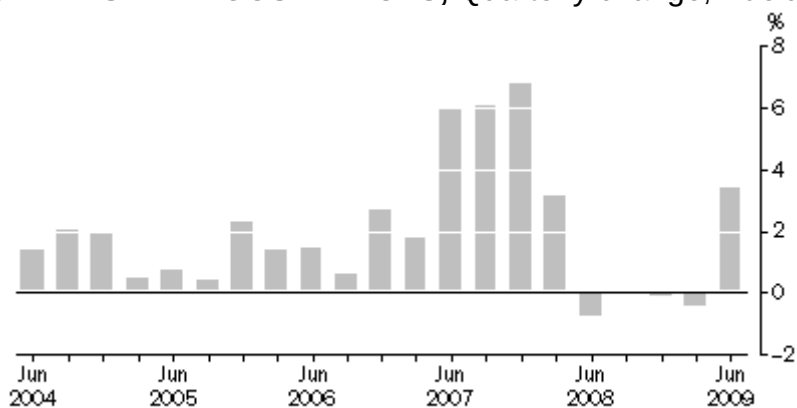
Source: Labour Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6345.0)

HOUSE PRICE INDEX

Preliminary estimates show that the price index for established houses for Adelaide (in original terms) increased 3.4% in the June quarter 2009; the first increase since the March quarter 2008. Price rises were recorded in all other capital cities between the March and June quarters 2009 resulting in an increase in the price index for the weighted average of the eight capital cities of 4.2% over this period.

Over the year to the June quarter 2009, the preliminary estimates show the price index for established houses for Adelaide rose 2.7%, while the weighted average of the eight capital cities decreased 1.4%.

ESTABLISHED HOUSE PRICES, Quarterly change, Adelaide



Source: House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities (cat. no. 6416.0)

Housing Finance

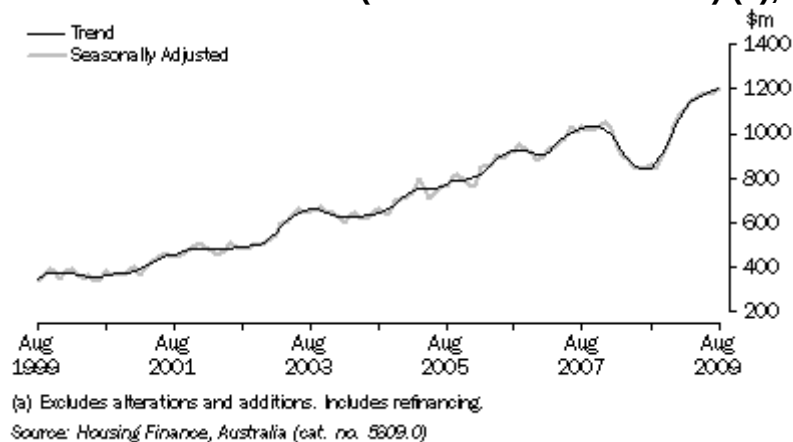


HOUSING FINANCE

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS

The trend estimate of the total value of housing finance commitments (owner occupation) in South Australia in August 2009 was \$1,201m, an increase of 0.6% from \$1,193m in July 2009. Nationally, the value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation fell from \$17,004m in July 2009 to \$16,966m in August 2009; a fall of 0.2%.

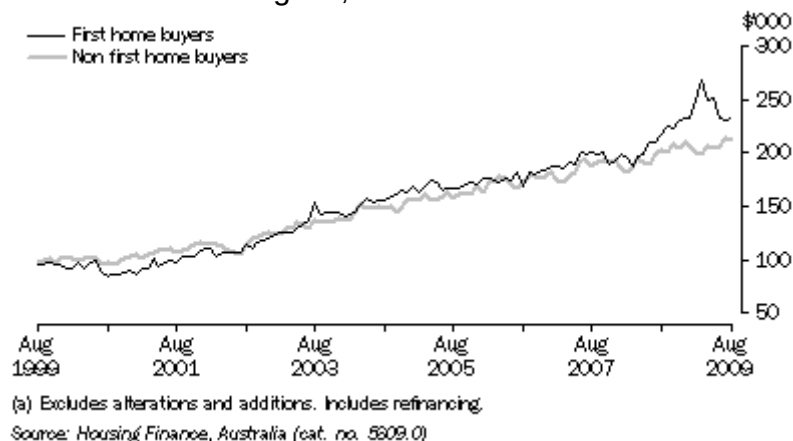
HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS (OWNER OCCUPATION) (a), South Australia



In August 2009, the average home loan size for owner occupied dwellings in South Australia was \$216,700, which was significantly lower than the average home loan size for Australia (\$266,600).

In August 2009, the average loan commitment for first home buyers in South Australia was \$233,300, which was 9.8% higher than the average loan size for non-first home buyers (\$212,500). The average loan commitment of first home buyers is now 13.0% below the peak of March 2009 (\$268,300).

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS (OWNER OCCUPATION) (a), Average loan size, Original, South Australia



For information on the house price index, please refer to the '[Price Indexes](#)' topic.

International Merchandise Trade



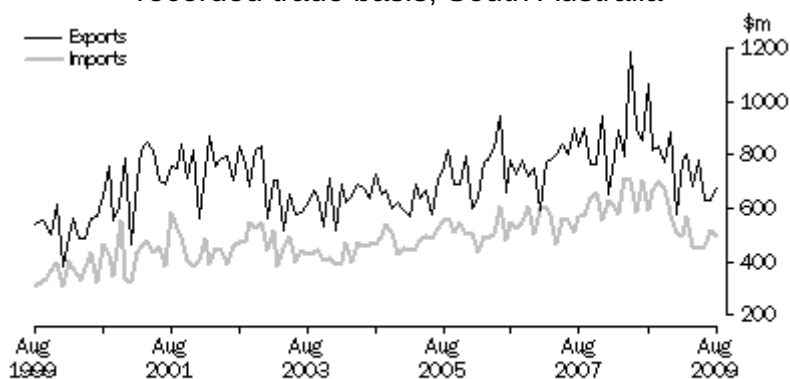
INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

On a recorded trade basis, the value of South Australia's exports in August 2009 was \$682m; an increase of 7.6% from July 2009 (\$634m) but still 36.2% lower than the value recorded in August 2008 (\$1,069m). The value of Australian merchandise exports for August 2009 was \$15,108m, a 26.2% decrease from the corresponding month of the previous year (\$20,472m).

The value of South Australian merchandise imports decreased 4.8% to \$497m in August 2009. This is 16.0% lower than the value of imports recorded in August 2008 (\$592m). The value of Australian merchandise imports for August 2009 was \$15,502m, a 15.9% decrease from August of the previous year (\$18,437m).

VALUE OF INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE EXPORTS AND IMPORTS (a), on a recorded trade basis, South Australia



(a) Exports where the final stage of production or manufacture occurs in South Australia.

Source: *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia* (cat. no. 5368.0)

Water



WATER

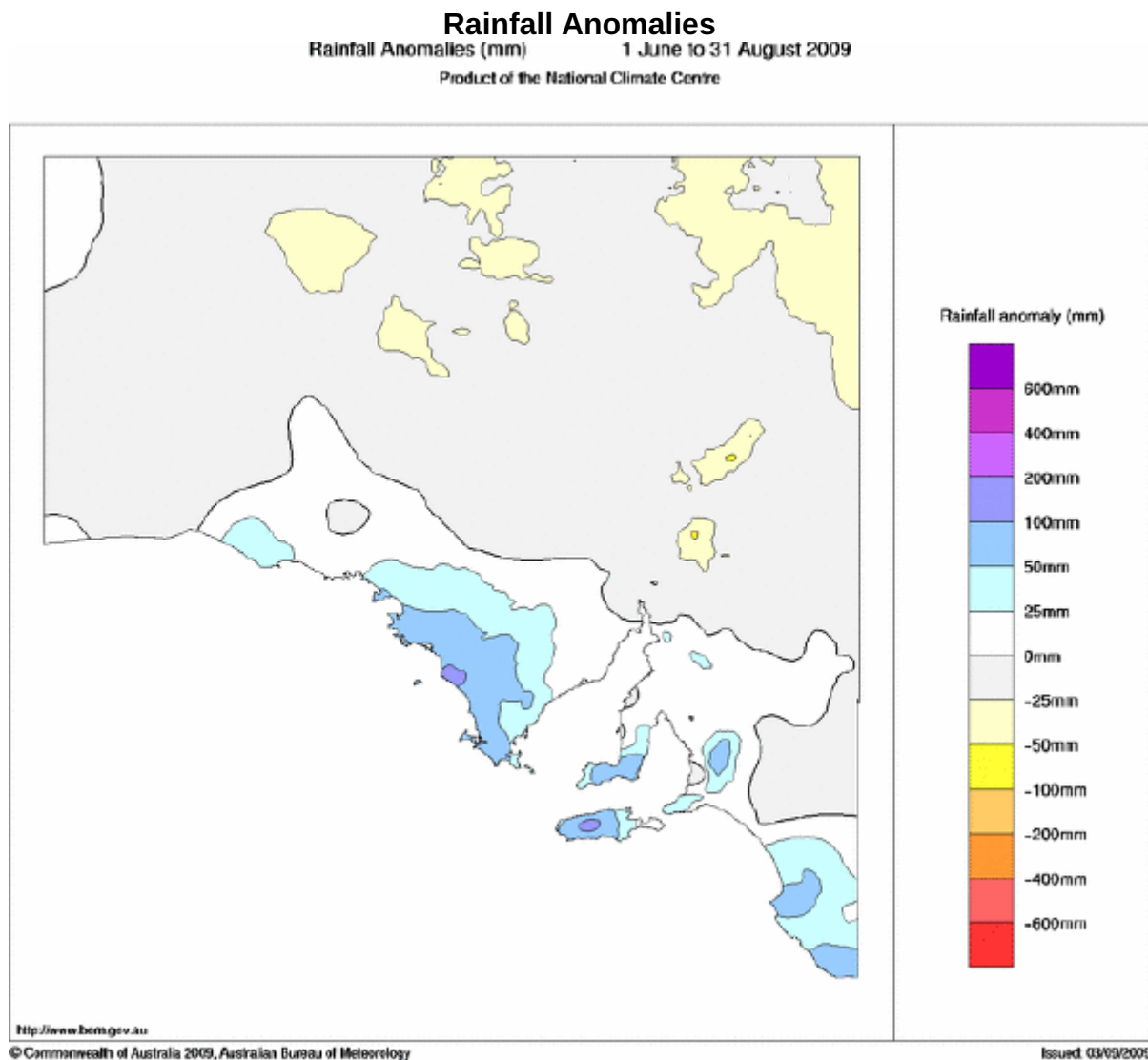
RAINFALL

According to the Bureau of Meteorology's Seasonal Climate Summary for South Australia, winter rainfall totals in 2009 were generally near average around the state with most rain falling late June through July.

Exceptions to this were in the pastoral areas with totals below average in the eastern and northern pastoral districts. Within these districts, however, individual locations, such as Yardea with 148mm, recorded large totals due to isolated thunderstorm events.

Above average rainfall results were recorded over the Eyre Peninsula with Streaky Bay, for example, receiving 291mm in the season; 67% above the winter average for the area of 174mm. The lower parts of the Yorke Peninsula, Kangaroo Island and much of the Mount Lofty Ranges also recorded results above average.

Both Growing season (April - October) and Year to date rainfall totals are tracking near average across most of the state.

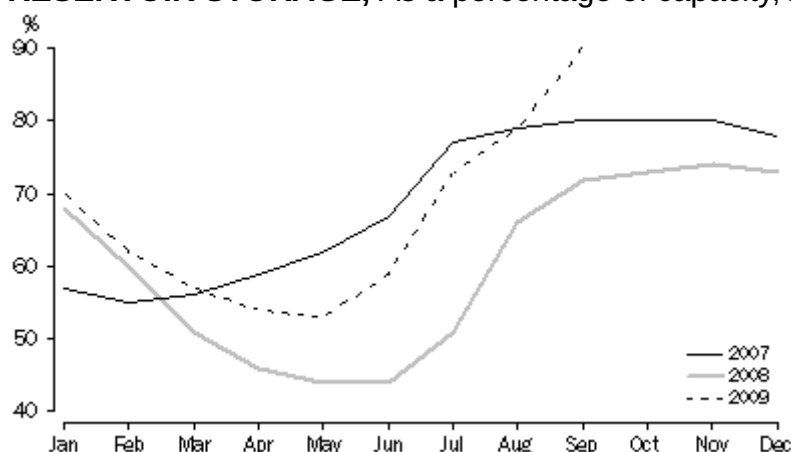


Source: 3-monthly rainfall anomalies for South Australia, Australian Bureau of Meteorology.

RESERVOIR LEVELS

The Bureau of Meteorology reported September 2009 rainfall to be near average across most catchment regions of South Australia. Run-off has continued to increase reservoir levels, with total storage at 90% of capacity by the end of September. This is the highest storage volume held since November 2005, according to SA Water, and will allow environmental flows to occur for the first time since 2006. Consequently, only about 1.3 gigalitres of water has been pumped from the River Murray into Adelaide's metropolitan reservoirs in the period 1 July - 30 September 2009. This compares with nearly 40 gigalitres pumped during the same period in 2008.

TOTAL RESERVOIR STORAGE, As a percentage of capacity, Adelaide



Source: [SA Water daily reservoir levels](#)

About this Release

SA Stats provides an overview of the South Australian population and economy. The publication is updated on a monthly basis, with most releases also featuring an article that provides a South Australian focus on economic, social and environmental issues.

Explanatory Notes are not included in SA Stats in the form found in other Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publications. Readers are directed to the Explanatory Notes contained in related ABS publications.

Who's not in the Labour Force (Feature Article)

FEATURE ARTICLE: WHO'S NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE

INTRODUCTION

In August 2009 (in trend terms) there were 491,900 South Australian persons not in the labour force; the highest number ever recorded. 'Persons not in the labour force' is the term used to describe those people aged 15 years and over who are neither employed nor unemployed. They represent a potential supply of labour not reflected in employment and unemployment statistics. The importance of monitoring the potential labour supply is

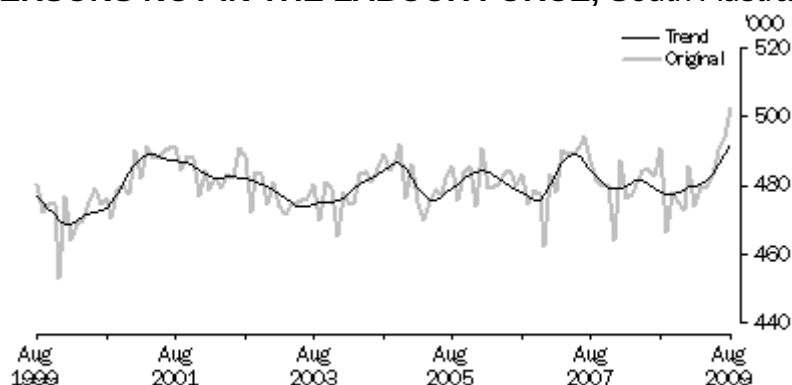
highlighted by the introduction of a new 'Employment participation' target in the update of South Australia's Strategic Plan.

This article looks at the recent trend and changing composition of people not in the labour force in South Australia and examines the various factors that may influence a person's ability and willingness to enter the workforce. The article provides information to understand the characteristics of those not in the labour force, to determine what support or interventions could be put in place to help get them into the labour force.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE

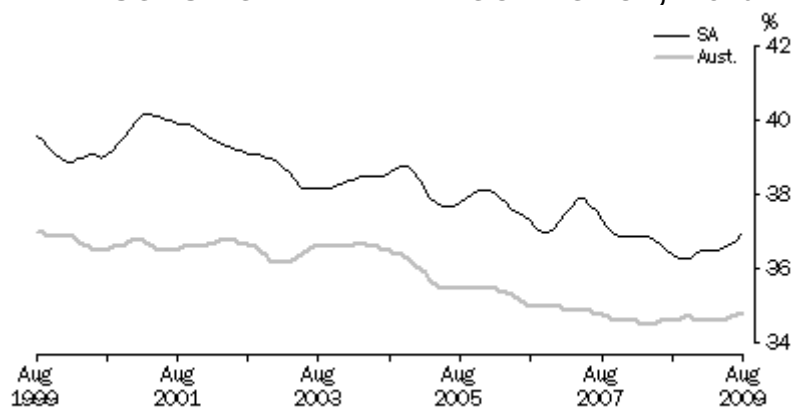
In August 2009, the total number of people not in the labour force in South Australia reached 491,900 (in trend terms).

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, South Australia



Although the number of people not in the labour force has increased over the last 10 years, the proportion of people not in the labour force aged 15 years and over has decreased. From August 1999 to August 2009, the proportion of people not in the Labour Force in South Australia decreased from 39.6% to 37.0%. This proportion reached its lowest level in September and November 2008 at 36.3% before increasing to 37.0% in August 2009. The proportion of South Australians not in the labour force remained constantly above the national rate for this 10 year period. This is most likely due to the different age structure of South Australia's population compared to the rest of Australia. South Australia has an older age profile than Australia, with 13.7% of those in scope of the labour force survey aged 70 and over, in August 2009, compared to 11.7% for Australia (ABS 2009a).

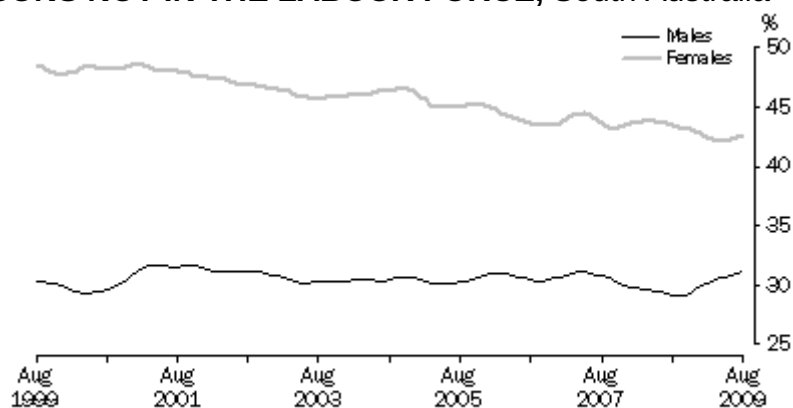
PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, Trend



The proportion of males not in the labour force in South Australia remained generally steady during the period, with a proportion of 30.4% in August 1999 and 31.1% in August 2009. The actual number of males not in the labour force increased from 179,400 to 205,100 over this period (ABS, 2009a).

The proportion of females not in the labour force in South Australia decreased from 48.5% in August 1999 to its lowest proportion of 42.1% in April 2009, before increasing slightly to 42.6% in August 2009. The actual number of females not in the labour force remained relatively stable during this period, decreasing slightly from 301,200 in August 1999 to 297,800 in August 2009 (ABS, 2009a).

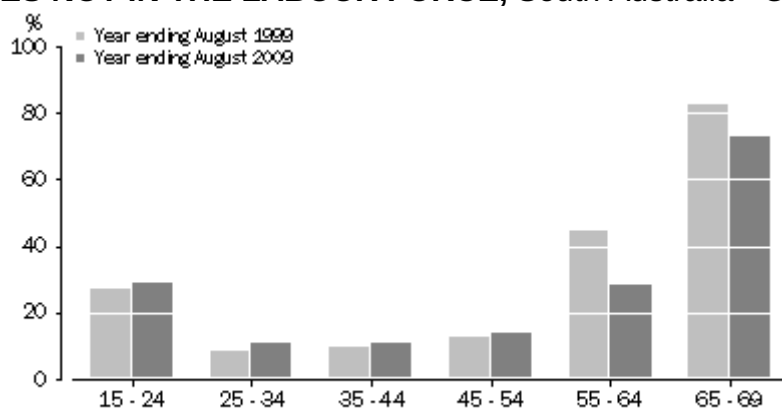
PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, South Australia - Trend



Source: Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

There has been a sizeable decrease, over the last ten years, in the proportion of older people who are not in the labour force. The proportion of males aged between 55 and 64 not in the labour force in South Australia decreased from 44.9% for the year ending August 1999 to 28.7% for the year ending August 2009. The proportion of males aged between 65 and 69 not in the labour force decreased from 82.9% to 72.9% while the proportions in other age groups remained similar over the period.

MALES NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, South Australia - Original

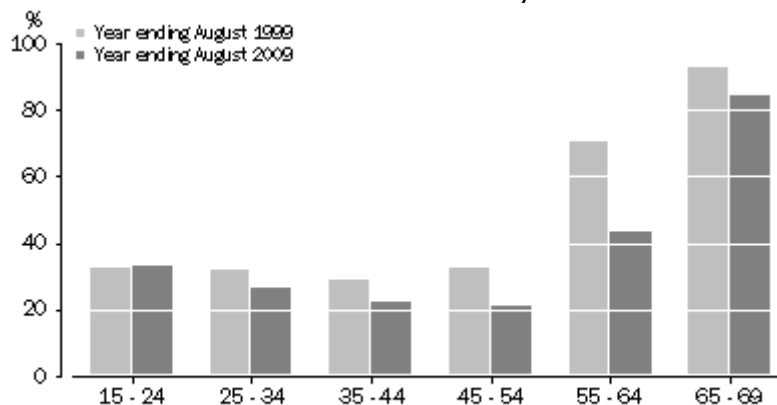


Source: Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

Between the year ending August 1999 and the year ending August 2009, the proportion of South Australian females not in the labour force decreased in all age groups except in the 15 to 24 year age group, which increased slightly from 32.4% to 33.4%. The 55 to 64 year age group experienced a large decrease from 70.5% to 43.4%, while the 45 to 54 year age

group decreased from 32.5% to 21.5%.

FEMALES NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, South Australia - Original



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

MAIN ACTIVITY

In South Australia, the two most common activities for people aged 15 and over whilst not in the labour force in 2008 were; 'Retired or voluntarily inactive', and 'Home duties'. There were 121,200 people 'Retired or voluntarily inactive' and 119,100 whose main activity was 'Home duties'. The most common activity for males was 'Retired or voluntarily inactive' while the most common activity for females was 'Home duties'. Approximately 15%, or 62,200 people, said their main activity when not in the labour force was 'Attending an educational institution'. The next most common activity for those not in the labour force was 'Own long-term health condition or disability' contributing to just over 11% (47,000 people) of those not in the labour force, with the majority of these being males (28,400).

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE^(a), Main Activity when not in the labour force^(b) - SA - 2008

	Male		Female		Persons	
	no	%	no	%	no	%
Retired or voluntarily inactive	64 608	37.8	56 573	22.5	121 180	28.7
Home duties	16 243	9.5	102 881	40.9	119 125	28.2
Caring for children	*3 625	2.1	15 643	6.2	19 267	4.6
Attending an educational institution	30 599	17.9	31 552	12.5	62 151	14.7
Own long-term health condition or disability	28 381	16.6	18 788	7.5	47 169	11.2
Own short-term illness or injury	*3 245	1.9	*2 663	1.1	5 907	1.4
Looking after ill or disabled person	4 931	2.9	6 245	2.5	11 175	2.6
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	11 759	6.9	10 421	4.1	22 179	5.2
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*4 187	2.5	5 568	2.2	9 754	2.3
Other	*3 514	2.1	*1 467	0.6	4 981	1.2
Total not in the labour force	171 091	100.0	251 799	100.0	422 890	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Persons aged 15 years and over

(b) Care should be taken when comparing estimates as these categories are not mutually exclusive. See paragraph 26 of the Explanatory Notes in the publication.

Source: Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey, data available on request

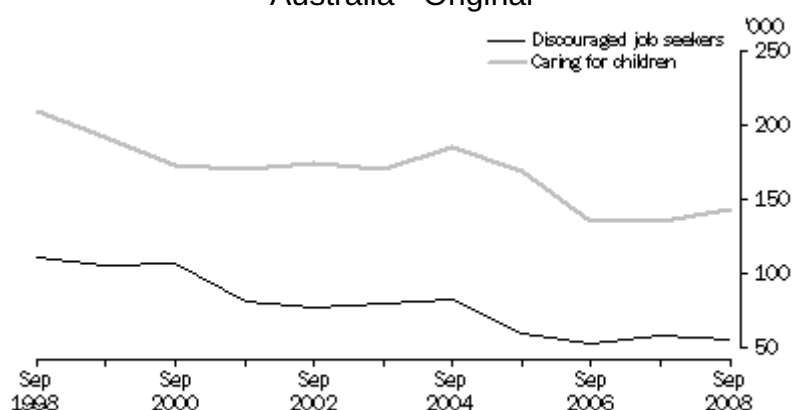
MAIN REASON NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE

When assessing the capacity of the labour force to support a growing economy, it is important to consider the reasons why people choose not to participate in the labour force.

The following graph shows Australian people aged 15-69, not in the labour force, who were not actively looking for work, but were available to start. The graph only shows two of the main reasons; discouraged job seekers and those caring for children. Due to the high error levels associated with the South Australian data, Australian data will be used. It can be assumed a similar trend would be evident in South Australia.

There has been a general decline in the numbers of discouraged job seekers and those caring for children. The number of discouraged job seekers in Australia decreased from 110,900 in September 1998 to 56,300 in September 2008 while those caring for children decreased from 209,200 to 143,400 over this same period.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, Main reason for not actively seeking work, Australia - Original



Source: Persons not in the Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6220.0)

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Almost 90,000 (37%) South Australians not in the labour force, aged 15 to 64, have a highest level of education of year 10 or below. There are over 60,000 people, not in the labour force, who are educated to a certificate level or higher including almost 28,000 people with a Bachelor Degree or above.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE^(a), Level of highest educational attainment - SA - May 2008

	Males no.	Females no.	Persons no.
Bachelor Degree or above ^(b)	7 989	19 877	27 866
Advanced Diploma/Diploma	*2 892	10 339	13 230
Certificate level ^(c)	11 027	11 510	22 537
Year 12	12 805	28 711	41 516
Year 11	16 814	26 254	43 067
Year 10 or below	33 832	55 065	88 898
Total^(d)	85 843	153 405	239 248

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Includes persons aged 15 to 64 years

(b) Includes Bachelor Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate and Postgraduate Degree

(c) includes Certificate level I to IV and Certificate not further defined

(d) Includes level not determined and persons with no educational attainment
Source: Survey of Education and Work, data available on request

TIME SINCE LAST JOB

There were almost 40,000 people in South Australia not in the labour force in 2008, aged 15 to 69, who had worked within the last 12 months, and just under 44,000 people who had their last job between 1 and 3 years ago. For approximately 146,000 people not in the labour force, it had been at least three years since their last job. It may be more difficult for people who have not worked in the past three years to re-enter the workforce than for those who had been employed more recently.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE^(a), Time since last job - SA - 2008

	Males no.	Females no.	Persons no.
Under twelve months	17 000	22 926	39 926
1 year and under 3 years	19 053	24 737	43 790
3 years and under 5 years	11 002	18 172	29 173
5 years and under 10 years	19 651	24 576	44 227
10 years or more	21 124	51 545	72 669

(a) Persons aged 15 to 69 years

Source: Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey, data available on request

INTENTION TO ENTER THE LABOUR FORCE

People's future intentions to enter the labour force can provide a guide as to future labour force supply. The majority (175,100 or 61%) of South Australians not in the labour force in 2008 did not intend to enter the labour force in the next 12 months. There were 64,100 people who did intend to join the labour force in the next 12 months and another 27,300 people who stated they might enter the labour force in the next 12 months.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE^(a), Intention to enter the labour force - SA - 2008

	Males no.	Females no.	Persons no.
Intended to enter the labour force in the next 12 months	27 258	36 816	64 075
Might enter the labour force in the next 12 months	9 767	17 466	27 233
Did not intend to enter the labour force in the next 12 months	65 004	110 105	175 109
Did not know	*2 358	*3 724	6 082
Permanently unable to work	7 793	7 023	14 816

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Persons aged 15 to 69 years

Source: Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey, data available on request

CONCLUSION

In South Australia, the proportion of people not in the labour force has generally decreased over the past decade but continually remained above the Australian level, due partly to the larger proportion of older people in South Australia. The decreased proportion of people not in the labour force is largely a result of an increased number of females entering the workforce and legislative changes encouraging older workers to stay in the labour force. It is also partly the result of a decreased number of 'Discouraged job seekers' and 'Persons caring for children', both of which are common reasons for not participating in the labour force.

South Australia's original Strategic Plan included targets relating to rates of employment and unemployment but a specific target relating to employment participation was not included until the 2007 update. With an ageing population, and in order to support continued economic development, the South Australia government has recognised the need for a sustained effort to increase labour force participation and to encourage workers to remain in the labour force until an older age. This article provides information to assist policy makers understand the characteristics of those not in the labour force so they can tailor support and interventions to help get people into the labour force.

LIST OF REFERENCES

ABS 2009a, Labour Force Australia, Detailed - Electronic delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) ABS, Canberra

ABS 2009b, Labour Force Australia, August (cat. no. 6202.0) ABS, Canberra

ABS 2008a, Persons not in the Labour Force, Australia, September (cat. no. 6220.0) ABS, Canberra

ABS 2008b, Education and Work, Australia (cat. no. 6227.0) ABS, Canberra

Government of South Australia, South Australia's Strategic Plan 2007